

Campus Conversations with President Maloney

December 4, 2019 8:30 a.m. -9:00 a.m.

Administration Building, Fuller Auditorium

- President welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending
- President introduced Dr. Edgar Moros who is one of the co-chairs of our [Strategic Planning Steering Committee](#) (SPSC)
 - The SPSC has had several meetings so far, has met with faculty and will meet with staff soon
 - There is a lot of data to work through
 - SPSC have gotten a lot of feedback that will support the plan
 - SPSC will meet with students in the spring
 - The SPSC will be sharing information shortly with the campus
 - The SPSC will have several information sessions in the spring
 - We will continue to engage with the Department of Higher Education on this process and the [Equity Agenda](#)
- President Maloney mentioned that we are focusing on five main areas with the [RASE Plan](#)
 - Majors / Minors
 - Student Life / College Experience / Residence Life
 - Advising
 - Liberal Arts and Sciences Curriculum (LASC)
 - First Year Experience (FYE)
 - These five points came out of the work that was done over the summer and with the help of the Art and Science consultant group
 - The work done last summer created 40 concepts that feed into these five areas
 - Each of the 40 concepts has a “champion” associated with them, that person will be on point for that particular concept
 - Some of these concepts will go through campus governance processes
- The MA State Legislature did not pass supplemental funding for Public Higher Education
 - The comptroller has informed the legislature that they need to finalize the FY19 budget
- A question was asked about what the Equity Agenda is
 - Please see here for a link to the Department of Higher Education’s Equity Agenda: <https://www.mass.edu/strategic/equity.asp>
 - The graduation and retention rates across the state for African American and Latinx students are lower when compared to Caucasian students
 - This plan aims to close the achievement gap
 - This is more than just providing financial aid and services, it also requires providing creative and sustainable ways for all of our students to be successful
 - The Commissioner is focused on these two communities because they are two of the largest growing populations in Massachusetts

Campus Conversations with President Maloney

December 4, 2019 8:30 a.m. -9:00 a.m.

Administration Building, Fuller Auditorium

- President Maloney is part of the statewide Equity Advisory Team, appointed by the Commissioner
- President Maloney mentioned his [Five Points of Action](#) plan on campus climate
- A follow up question was asked about how will we make sure the students that the Equity Agenda feeds into the RASE Plan
 - We will look at equity both within the RASE Plan and the Strategic Plan
 - As an example, we need to think broadly about how we advise our students in every way by everyone
 - We will continue to have high expectations for all of our students and make sure that they all obtain the bachelor's degree they came here to earn
- A comment was made that registration has been made a bit more difficult because of advising
 - The President expects, as he says at every orientation, that within the first three weeks every student should meet with their advisor
 - President Maloney believes that it is critical for student success that our students meet with their academic advisors
 - There is a difference between advising and mentorship
 - We need to figure out ways to make sure that our academic colleagues can build these relationships with students
 - We may learn that a student is struggling and needs support because of these mentorships
 - The RASE Plan will assist us with these conversations
 - We will continue to have conversations about how best to support our students
- A follow up comment was made about the advisors being willing to engage with their students and creating a more diverse advising pool
 - We have to be thoughtful about when the advising conversation happens, it can't just happen when students need to register for classes
 - We are talking about providing training for advisors
 - We will continue to work on diversifying our hires
- A question was asked about snow policies and cancellations
 - The President appreciates the work done by the facilities team to make sure the campus was ready to be open
 - Because we have a very large residential component on campus we need to safely open the campus as soon as possible
 - The President has said, if employees are not able to safely make it in, call in
 - The Provost added that we pay attention to the National Weather Service
 - The National Weather Service was accurate about Monday, but not Tuesday

Campus Conversations with President Maloney

December 4, 2019 8:30 a.m. -9:00 a.m.

Administration Building, Fuller Auditorium

- The Provost, who makes the final call, works with Facilities and University Police to make the best call with the best information they have at the time
- The Provost thanked the Library and Wellness Center staff for opening to provide services to the students
- Our default is to be open and providing services and classes for our students
- A follow up comment was made about the balance faculty need to do with students that show up versus the ones that do not
- We will continue to work on messaging and timing
- There is always a debrief after each storm
- President reminded everyone that this can be a stressful time of year for our students, please be on the lookout and assist where you can

Spring Semester 2020 Campus Conversations will be held in the Fuller Theater of the Shaughnessy Administration Building.

For the Spring semester, the dates and times are:

Tuesday, February 4, 2020, 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, April 14, 2020, 2:30 p.m.